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PTO/SB/01 (03-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

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<b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION</b> <b>(37 CFR 1.63)</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing    OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge) (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required		Attorney Docket Number		013341-000014	
		First Named Inventor		Andrew Kaplan	
		<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>			
		Application Number		10/065,256	
		Filing Date		September 30, 2002	
		Group Art Unit			
		Examiner Name			

**As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:**

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Suture Method

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto

OR

☒ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) September 30, 2002 as United States Application Number or PCT international Application Number 10/065,256 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)  (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by and amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02/B attached hereto:

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**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 21 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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**DECLARATION – Utility or Design Patent Application**Direct all correspondence to: ☒ Customer Number  
Or Bar Code Label  OR ☐ Correspondence address below  
**24239**Name **Moore & Van Allen**Address **2200 West Main Street**City **Durham**State **NC**ZIP **27705**Country **US**Telephone **(919) 286-8000**Fax **(919) 286-8199**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:**☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventorGiven Name  
(first and middle [if any]) **Andrew**Family Name  
Or Surname **Kaplan**Inventor's  
Signature Date **10/15/02**Residence: City **Hillsborough**State **NC**Country **US**Citizenship **US**Mailing Address **1027 Crown Court**City **Hillsborough**State **NC**ZIP **27278**Country **US****NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:**☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventorGiven Name  
(first and middle [if any]) **Gregory L.**Family Name  
Or Surname **Ruff**Inventor's  
Signature Date **10/15/02**Residence: City **Chapel Hill**State **NC**Country **US**Citizenship **US**Mailing Address **201 Longwood Drive**City **Chapel Hill**State **NC**ZIP **27514**Country **US**☒ Additional inventors are being named on the 1 supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02S attached hereto



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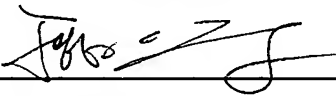
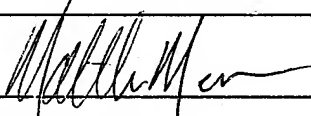


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DECLARATION		ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S) Supplemental Sheet Page 1 of 1	
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Jeffrey C.		Leung	
Inventor's Signature 		Date 10/10/02	
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Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Matthew A.		Megaro	
Inventor's Signature 		Date 10/15/02	
Residence: City Chapel Hill	State NC	Country US	Citizenship US
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Mailing Address			
City Chapel Hill	State NC	ZIP 27514	Country US
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	State	Country	Citizenship
Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City	State	ZIP	Country

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